

## Claims

What is claimed is:

1        1.     A method for providing distributed computing services via a network,  
2 comprising:

3            receiving an order for providing an information handling system to a customer;  
4            leasing back computing resources of the information handling system provided to  
5            the customer; and  
6            thereafter using the leased back computing resources for providing distributed  
7            computing services.

1        2.     The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising configuring the  
2 information handling system for providing the leased back computing resources.

1        3.     The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising configuring the  
2 information handling system prior to delivery of the information handling system.

1        4.     The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising providing an  
2 incentive to the customer for leasing back the computing resources.

1        5.     The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the distributed computing  
2 services comprise hosting of content on the World Wide Web (WWW).

1        6.     The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the distributed computing  
2 services comprise at least one of storage of data and distributed processing of an  
3 application.

1       7.    A method for providing distributed computing services via a network,  
2 comprising:

3       receiving an order for providing an information handling system to a customer;  
4       leasing back computing resources of the information handling system provided to  
5       the customer;  
6       configuring the information handling system for providing the leased back  
7       computing resources; and  
8       using the leased back computing resources for providing distributed computing  
9       services.

1       8.    The method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising configuring the  
2 information handling system prior to delivery of the information handling system.

1       9.    The method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising providing an  
2 incentive to the customer for leasing back the computing resources.

1       10.   The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the distributed computing  
2 services comprise hosting of content on the World Wide Web (WWW).

1       11.   The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the distributed computing  
2 services comprise at least one of storage of data and distributed processing of an  
3 application.

1       12. A method for providing distributed computing services via a network,  
2 comprising:

3       entering an agreement with a customer for providing an information handling  
4       system to a customer;

5       leasing back computing resources of the information handling system provided to  
6       the customer as part of the negotiated agreement;

7       configuring the information handling system for providing the leased back  
8       computing resources prior to provision of the information handling system  
9       to the customer; and

10      11 using the leased back computing resources for providing distributed computing  
services.

1       13. The method as claimed in claim 12, further comprising configuring the  
2 information handling system prior to delivery of the information handling system.

1       14. The method as claimed in claim 12, further comprising providing an  
2 incentive to the customer for leasing back the computing resources.

1       15. The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the step of negotiating an  
2 agreement with a customer further comprises negotiating a lease back agreement for  
3 leasing back the computing resources.

1       16. The method as claimed in claim 15, further comprising determining if the  
2 customer is in compliance with the lease back agreement.

1       17. The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein if the customer is determined  
2 to not be in compliance with the lease back agreement, discontinuing the incentive.

1       18. The method as claimed in claim 15, further comprising, after the lease  
2 back agreement has expired, determining if the customer wishes to continue leasing back  
3 the computing resources.

1       19. The method as claimed in claim 18, further comprising providing a second  
2 incentive to the customer for continuing leasing the computing resources.

1           20. The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the distributed computing  
2 services comprise hosting of content on the World Wide Web (WWW).

1           21. The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the distributed computing  
2 services comprise at least one of storage of data and distributed processing of an  
3 application.

1        22. A system for providing distributed computing services via a network,  
2 comprising:

3            a system manager; and

4            a plurality of information handling systems furnishing computing resources  
5            suitable for use by the system manager for providing the distributed  
6            computing services, wherein the computing resources are acquired by the  
7            service provider by:

8                    entering an agreement with a customer for providing an  
9                    information handling system to a customer;

10                  leasing back computing resources of the information handling  
11                  system provided to the customer as part of the agreement;  
12                  and

13                  configuring the information handling system for providing the  
14                  leased back computing resources.

1        23. The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein the information handling  
2        system is configured prior to delivery of the information handling system.

1        24. The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein the service provider provides  
2        an incentive to the customer for leasing back the computing resources.

1        25. The system as claimed in claim 24, wherein negotiating an agreement with  
2        a customer further comprises negotiating a lease back agreement for leasing back the  
3        computing resources.

1        26. The system as claimed in claim 25, wherein the service provider further  
2        determines if the customer is in compliance with the lease back agreement.

1        27. The system as claimed in claim 26, wherein if the customer is determined  
2        to not be in compliance with the lease back agreement, the service provider discontinues  
3        the incentive.

1        28. The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein the distributed computing  
2        services comprise hosting of content on the World Wide Web (WWW).

1           29. The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein the distributed computing  
2 services comprise at least one of storage of data and distributed processing of an  
3 application.

1       30. A method for providing distributed computing services via a network,  
2 comprising steps:

3            entering an agreement with a customer for providing an upgrade to an information  
4            handling system to a customer;  
5            leasing back computing resources of the information handling system for which  
6            the upgrade is provided as part of the negotiated agreement;  
7            configuring the information handling system for providing the leased back  
8            computing resources prior to provision of the information handling system  
9            to the customer; and  
10           using the leased back computing resources for providing distributed computing  
11            services.

1       31. The method as claimed in claim 30, further comprising configuring the  
2 information handling system prior to delivery of the information handling system.

1       32. The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein the distributed computing  
2 services comprise hosting of content on the World Wide Web (WWW).

1       33. The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein the distributed computing  
2 services comprise at least one of storage of data and distributed processing of an  
3 application.